

SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

The [FY 11-12 Final Millage and Budget Hearing](#) of the [Board of Lee County Commissioners](#) was held on this date with the following Commissioners present:

Frank B. Mann, Chairman
 John E. Manning, Vice Chairman
 A. Brian Bigelow
 Ray Judah
 Tammara Hall

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

INTRODUCTION TO THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS

Referring to the [script](#), Chairman Mann reviewed the order of the proceedings for the public hearing. Deputy County Attorney Andrea Fraser approved, as to legal form and sufficiency, the [Affidavits of Publication](#) for the FY11-12 Final Lee County Budget Public Hearing.

CONVENE AS THE BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS

FOR ACTION TAKEN, REFER TO THE MINUTES OF THE PORT AUTHORITY MEETING OF THIS DATE.

RECONVENE AS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS OR COURT RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

The Chairman called for comments by the Constitutional Officers or Court Related Organizations; however, no one came forward.

PRESENTATION OF THE FY11-12 PROPOSED BUDGET

Assistant County Manager and Acting Budget Director Pete Winton provided opening comments on the public hearing process to adopt the Final FY 11-12 proposed budget.

The Chairman called for public comment on any budget; and the following individuals came forward:

Lehigh Acres Foundational Education of Voters Rights and Responsibilities (FEVRR) representative
[Melissa Dortch](#)
 Fort Myers Beach Mayor [Larry Kiker](#)
 Lehigh Acres Economic Development representative [Edd Weiner](#)
 Lehigh Acres resident [David Deetscreek](#)
 Lehigh Acres resident [Charlotte Rae Nicely](#)
 Lehigh Acres resident [Mike Swords \(handout\)](#)
 Lehigh Acres resident [Jere D. Carrick \(handout\)](#)
 Lehigh Acres resident [Douglas Patterson](#)
 Lee County Volunteers in Medicine representative [Linda Patterson](#)
 Lee County Volunteers in Medicine representative [Dr. Stephen Schroering \(handout\)](#)
 Lee County Volunteers in Medicine Executive Director [Andrea Kuzbyt, MPH](#)
 Lee County Volunteers in Medicine representative [Dr. Bill Kuzbyt](#)
 Lehigh Acres resident [Damon Shelor](#)
 Lee County Volunteers in Medicine representative [Randy Lee Reis](#)
 Bonita Springs Taxpayer Action Group representative [Ron Pure](#)
 Sierra Club Calusa Group representative [Carl Veaux](#)
 Fort Myers representative [George Wheaton](#)

FINAL MILLAGES AND BUDGETS FOR SPECIAL TAXING UNITS

Public Resources Senior Fiscal Officer Lori Borman read the FY11-12 Special Taxing Units millages into the record (referenced in the back-up material to this item). Commissioners Judah and Hall briefly left the Chambers during the reading into the record by Ms. Borman. The Chairman called for public comment; however, no one came forward. Commissioner Manning moved to adopt the Final Millage Resolution for the Special Taxing Units, seconded by Commissioner Judah, called and carried. Commissioner Manning moved to approve the Final budgets for the Special Taxing Units for FY11-12, seconded by Commissioner Judah, called and carried.

[RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-29](#)

FINAL COUNTYWIDE MILLAGES AND BUDGETS

Assistant County Manager and Acting Budget Director Pete Winton read into the record the Proposed Countywide Millage of 4.1506 mills per thousand of taxable value, which is a 4.04% decrease from the rolled-back rate of 4.3252 mills per thousand of taxable value. He stated the County-wide millage is made up of the following levies, along with the corresponding rolled-back rates and budgets:

	<u>Proposed Millage Rate</u>	<u>Rolled-Back Rate</u>
General Fund	3.6506	3.8037
Preservation Lands MSTU (Conservation 2020)	<u>0.5000</u>	<u>0.5215</u>
TOTAL	4.1506	4.3252

Mr. Winton referenced a [September 19, 2011 Memorandum](#) from County Manager Karen B. Hawes and outlined the changes reflected in the Budget Summaries and General Fund Adjustments following the September 7, 2011 Tentative Budget Public Hearing. DOT Interim Director Dave Loveland provided an update on the Homestead Road widening project in Lehigh Acres and the Estero Boulevard phased reconstruction on Fort Myers Beach, and he and Mr. Winton responded to Board questions and comments. Mr. Loveland agreed to bring Estero Boulevard financing options back to the Board prior to the planned November roads update. Public Parks and Recreation Director Barbara Manzo addressed the budget transfer of \$415,248.00 for certain County-owned preserve lands ([copy of Map on file](#) in the Minutes Office), currently maintained by Parks & Recreation, to the Conservation 20/20 maintenance fund. Mr. Winton and Ms. Manzo responded to Board comments and questions. At the conclusion of discussion, there was consensus to run this by the CLASAC Committee for further review; and to reduce the Management Fund and increase the Public Parks and Recreation budget by \$415,248.00. Commissioner Hall moved approval to adopt the amendment to add \$415,248.00 to the Public Parks and Recreation Budget, seconded by Commissioner Manning, called and carried. Ms. Manzo, Mr. Winton and Ms. Hawes responded to additional Board questions and comments, including those made during public comment. Following further discussion, and in accordance with a suggestion by Ms. Hawes, the Chairman requested that the principals from the Lee County Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) Program, contact her and arrange a meeting. Commissioner Hall further suggested that the VIM principals get involved with the County’s Human Services Council. Commissioner Manning moved to adopt the Final Countywide Millage Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Mann for discussion, and the motion was called and carried with Commissioner Bigelow voting nay.

[RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-30](#)

Commissioner Hall, moved to adopt the Final Countywide Budget for FY 11-12, seconded by Commissioner Manning, called and carried with Commissioners Mann and Bigelow voting nay.

FINAL LIBRARY

Assistant County Manager and acting Budget Director Pete Winton read the proposed Lee County Library Millage of .3541 mills per thousand taxable value, compared to the rolled-back rate of .3541, into the record, indicating it was a 0.00% increase from the rolled-back rate. Following brief clarification by Mr. Winton to a question by Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Judah, moved to adopt the Final Lee County Library Millage Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Manning, called and carried with Commissioners Mann and Bigelow voting nay.

[RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-31](#)

Commissioner Judah moved to adopt the Final Lee County Library Budget for FY 11-12, seconded by Commissioner Manning, called and carried with Commissioners Mann and Bigelow voting nay.

UNINCORPORATED AREA MSTU

Assistant County Manager and acting Budget Director Pete Winton read the proposed Lee County Unincorporated Area MSTU millage of 0.8398 mills per thousand taxable value compared to the rolled-back rate of 0.8804 mills per thousand of taxable value, into the record, indicating it was a 4.61% decrease from the rolled-back rate. Chairman Mann addressed the Lehigh Acres economic development issues, and passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Manning in order to offer a motion. In response to a funding request from the Lehigh Acres Economic Development Board, Commissioner Mann moved to provide a scaled down \$100,000.00 grant with a \$25,000.00 match, and to coordination with the Lee County Economic Development Office to provide a success measurement for the next budget year. Commissioner Bigelow seconded the motion for discussion, and provided his rationale for a recommendation that the balance of \$4.7 million in the County’s Economic Development Reserve Fund be spent solely for Lehigh Acres. Commissioner Hall provided a response to a recent meeting with Lehigh economic development representatives and the need to balance requests from all Lee communities and organizations. Following

further discussion, the motion was called and failed with Commissioners Manning, Hall and Judah voting nay. At the request of Commissioner Judah for further discussion on this issue, Ms. Hawes indicated that an update by Economic Development Director Jim Moore was already scheduled for next month. Commissioner Hall requested that Ms. Hawes and Mr. Moore arrange a time to meet specifically with Lehigh economic representatives prior to Mr. Moore’s update to the Board next month. Commissioner Manning moved to adopt the Final Unincorporated Area MSTU Millage Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Judah, called and carried with Commissioner Bigelow voting nay.

[RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-32](#)

Commissioner Manning moved to adopt the Final Budget for the Lee County Unincorporated Area MSTU for FY 11-12, seconded by Commissioner Judah, called and carried with Commissioners Mann and Bigelow voting nay. At the request of Commissioner Hall, Deputy County Attorney Andrea Fraser confirmed that if any of the budgets were not passed, the Tentative Budget adopted at the September 7th hearing would be in effect.

ALL HAZARDS PROTECTION

Assistant County Manager and Acting Budget Director Pete Winton read the proposed Lee County All Hazards Protection District millage of 0.0693 mills per thousand taxable value compared to the rolled-back rate of 0.0724 mills per thousand of taxable value, into the record, indicating it was a 4.28% decrease from the rolled-back rate.

Commissioner Manning moved to adopt the Final Millage Resolution for the Lee County All Hazards Protection District, seconded by Commissioner Hall, called and carried with Commissioner Bigelow voting nay.

[RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-33](#)

Commissioner Manning moved to adopt the Final Budget for the Lee County All Hazards Protection District for FY 11-12, seconded by Commissioner Hall, called and carried with Commissioner Bigelow voting nay.

ALL OTHER BUDGET MILLAGES AND BUDGETS

Assistant County Manager and Acting Budget Director Pete Winton read the proposed Lee County All Other (non-millage) Budgets for FY11-12 into the record. Commissioner Hall moved to adopt the Final Lee County All Other Budgets, seconded by Commissioner Manning, called and carried with Commissioner Bigelow voting nay.

[RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-34](#)

TOTAL COUNTY BUDGET FOR FY 11-12

Assistant County Manager and Acting Budget Director Pete Winton read this Hearing’s compliance portion from the script and stated that the proposed Total Lee County Budget for FY11-12 (shown in the “[Budget Summary Reports](#)”, which outlines each fund and is made a part of the Budget Resolution) is now being proposed for adoption as the Final Total Lee County Budget of Lee County, Florida for FY11-12. Commissioner Hall moved to adopt the Final Total Lee County Budget for FY11-12, seconded by Commissioner Manning, called and carried with Commissioners Mann and Bigelow voting nay.

[RESOLUTION NO. 11-09-35](#)

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

ATTEST:
CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK

Deputy Clerk

[Chairman, Lee County Commission](#)