

AUGUST 29, 2011

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Budget Workshop Meeting of the Board of Lee County Commissioners was held on this date with the following members present:

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

Charlie Green, Clerk of Courts  
Bill Bergquist, Sheriff's Deputy Director  
Sharon Harrington, Supervisor of Elections  
Roger Desjarlais, Deputy Property Appraiser  
Larry Hart, Assistant Tax Collector  
Chief Judge Jay Rosman, Court Administration  
Dr. Rebecca Hamilton, Medical Examiner  
Kathy Smith, Public Defender  
Steve Russell, State Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

County Manager Karen Hawes reviewed her Memorandum dated August 25, 2011 (copy on file), and Assistant County Manager Pete Winton, with the use of a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file), reviewed the projected General Fund items, and County Manager's recommended cuts/options.

Board discussion ensued with Mr. Winton responding to questions. Commissioner Bigelow left the meeting briefly during Commissioner's comments.

Following a short break, the Chairman called the meeting back to order with all Commissioners present.

The Directors of the following Departments reviewed their program/services, costs, potential cuts, and possible impacts: Transit, Human Services, Facilities Services, Parks & Recreation, Public Safety, and County Attorney.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COURT RELATED SERVICES**

### **CLERK OF COURTS CHARLIE GREEN**

Mr. Green reported a budget reduction of \$1.1 Million

### **SHERIFF MIKE SCOTT**

Deputy Director Bill Bergquist, on behalf of Sheriff Mike Scott, informed that over the last three years \$17 Million has been cut, \$8 million has been returned on recapture, and noted the Sheriff's office did not participate in furloughs; however had cut the budget to the equivalent of the furloughs. He informed that, at the request of Administration, the post benefit for retirees will be paid from the dollars that were set aside several years ago resulting in another \$2 million in savings; and noted the increase in jail population. During Board discussion, Mr. Bergquist informed that 20 senior level positions had been deleted. Discussion continued regarding the School Resource Officers.

### **SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS**

Supervisor of Elections Sharon Harrington stated there were no changes this year and indicated a reduction in mailing and postage that would reduce the number of people in the workforce. She noted that there would be over \$50,000.00 returned to the Board and \$600,000.00 from Municipalities returned to the Board.

### **PROPERTY APPRAISER KEN WILKINSON**

Deputy Property Appraiser Roger Desjarlais, on behalf of Mr. Wilkinson, noted that the office had reduced their budget by 7% or \$650,000.00 over last year, and stated expenses were at the 2005 level.

### **TAX COLLECTOR CATHY CURTIS**

Assistant Tax Collector Larry Hart explained Florida Statute 197.091, stating their office is funded by the County. Commissioner Hall left the meeting briefly during Mr. Hart's comments. He noted the Tax Collector's budget is the same as that of 2003-2004.

### **COURT ADMINISTRATION CHIEF JUDGE JAY ROSMAN**

20<sup>th</sup> Circuit Chief Judge Jay Rosman noted that the proposed budget represents a reduction of half a million dollars - a 4% cut.

### **MEDICAL EXAMINER DR. REBECCA HAMILTON**

Dr. Hamilton reported a slight increase of 1.9% due to staffing, health insurance, and malpractice insurance.

**PUBLIC DEFENDER KATHY SMITH**

20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Public Defender Kathy Smith noted that a larger portion their funding comes from the State; and informed that for FY 11-12, \$602,000.00 came from Lee County. She further stated her costs were fixed.

**STATE ATTORNEY STEVE RUSSELL**

20<sup>th</sup> Circuit State Attorney Steve Russell provided a summary of funding and expenses.

After comments by Commissioner Hall, the Chairman asked that Commissioner Manning restate the summary of minimal cuts (excluding the difference between Human Services’ additional cuts) of the following departments:

Transit	\$ 648,000.00
Human Services	\$ 770,000.00
Facilities	\$ 1,100,000.00
Parks & Recreation	\$ 450,000.00
Public Safety – transfer to MSBU fund 44.6%	\$ 1,280,000.00
County Attorney	\$ <u>135,000.00</u>
<b>Total :</b>	<b>\$ 4,383,000.00</b>

After providing comments, Commissioner Manning left the meeting due to a previous commitment. Brief Board discussion ensued during which the Chairman noted the Tentative and a Final Budget Hearings were scheduled for September.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:51 p.m.

ATTEST:  
CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK

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Deputy Clerk

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Chairman, Lee County Commission