

JUNE 5, 2018

A [Workshop Meeting](#) of the [Board of Lee County Commissioners](#), sitting as the Management & Planning Committee, was held on this date with the following Commissioners present:

Cecil Pendergrass, Chairman
 Larry Kiker, Vice Chairman
 Brian Hamman
 Franklin B. Mann (left the meeting at 1:51 p.m.)
 John Manning

Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

County Manager Comments

County Manager Roger Desjarlais stated that this First Draft of Continuation Budget FY 18-19 is a culmination of several Work Sessions with policy direction being given from the Board. Mr. Desjarlais then turned the meeting over to Assistant County Manager/Chief Financial Officer Peter Winton.

1st Draft FY18-19 Continuation Budget

Assistant County Manager/Chief Financial Officer Peter Winton narrated a [Power Point Presentation](#) (copy on file) on the FY 2018-2019 Continuation Budget with Assistance from Assistant County Manager Christine Brady. Mr. Winton expressed that this is the first draft with plenty of time for input. Mr. Winton stated that this is a result of policy direction received by the Board starting last December 2017.

- Review Board Policy Direction
- Review 1st Draft Proposed FY 18-19 Budget
- Changes / Input for 2nd Draft

Mr. Winton went on to list each Work Session and the item that the Board was looking for further input on. He explained that this is the policy direction that Staff gleaned from those Work Sessions as well as previous policy set by the Board in building this Continuation Budget. First, bring forward a Continuation Budget only, which is the cost to provide the exact same level of services next year as we are providing this year. There has been included, a growth increment funding of 11.4 million. Mr. Winton went on to discuss funding a 50% cost share of School Resource Officers in all schools in the Unincorporated area only through the Unincorporated MSTU Fund. Mr. Winton responded to questions and comments from Commissioners Kiker and Mr. Desjarlais. Mr. Desjarlais expressed the need to provide additional information about the SRO Program, in order to clarify for the Board. Some of the other projects are: Public Safety Projects (10 million), Emergency Radio Network upgrade from analog to digital (8 million), and to start the plan and design of the Public Safety Campus (2 million). Commissioner Manning asked what the total cost was for the upgrade from analog to digital of the Emergency Radio Network. Assistant County Manager Christine Brady stated that it has been estimated that the upgrade would cost between 15 – 20 million and once the bid comes back and after negotiations, they would have a better idea. Additionally, the Budget includes funding from the general fund from excess reserves of 3.5 million for Conservation 20/20 replenishment, with the caveat that the Board had asked Staff to review the amount throughout the budget process. Commissioner Mann voiced his concern about this figure. He feels this amount is very conservative and under stating it tremendously. Commissioner Mann stated that he would like to move more aggressively. Commissioner Pendergrass agreed with increasing the funding however, he stated that there was nowhere else to move the money from. In the review of the General Fund Mr. Winton specified projected revenues (using a 5.33% - 8.6% Tax Base). Commissioner Mann asked some questions regarding the percentages used and where they come from. County Manager Roger Desjarlais addressed his questions. Regarding the CRA's Commissioner Pendergrass asked how many are currently active right now as well as how much it cost the County every year. Mr. Winton stated there are three and the total is estimated at 3 million for FY 17-18. Commissioner Hamman had some questions about the CAD project and Assistant County Manager Christine Brady addressed his questions. There was extensive discussion regarding Human Services and the Early Learning Coalition (ELC) funding between, the Board, Ms. Brady, Mr. Desjarlais and Director of Human & Veteran Services Roger Mercado. With regard to Outstanding Recurring Budget under the 5.33% tax base there shows a deficit and under the 8.6% there is a surplus. Mr. Winton relayed that after receiving the July 1 final assessment the amount would be somewhere in the middle and that Staff would be working on making the deficit go away either by making additional cuts or obtaining additional revenue in order to balance it out. Commissioner Hamman then inquired about the TRIM and the amount of the Millage Rate. Mr. Desjarlais conveyed that the rate will stay the same as the current year. Mr. Winton gave an in depth break down on the Unincorporated MSTU funding and where the fund stands.

Board Discussion

Mr. Winton and County Manager Desjarlais responded to questions and comments by the Board throughout the presentation. Mr. Desjarlais elaborated on the Unincorporated MSTU deficit and expressed the fact that Staff has been working really hard to find a way out of the growing deficit position. He expressed that he will not allow this deficit to eat up all the reserves. However, every time Staff makes progress something else unexpected comes up and throws off the numbers. He stated that Staff is just as concerned about the growing deficit as the Board. He suggested a Work Session be scheduled specifically for discussion about Unincorporated MSTU funding. Mr. Desjarlais recapped the meeting saying that he and his Staff would follow-up and re-evaluate the SRO Program. Also, after seeing what the property values look like he and Staff will be re-evaluating the 20/20 funding for the coming year. He also suggested the Board cancel the next Work Session presently scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2018. This would allow time to gather the information that the Board has requested and the Board agreed. Additionally, Commissioner Hamman had requested the number of employees Constitutionals/Courts vs. BoCC and Mr. Desjarlais said he would work on getting him those numbers. In addition, Mr. Desjarlais stated that he would be working toward setting up a Partnering for Results Work Session in an effort to be able to better sort out those issues in the coming year along with the funding. Commissioner Kiker suggested setting up a Work Session regarding Affordable Housing and the affect it has on the budget.

Mr. Desjarlais also went on to thank Assistant County Manager/Chief Financial Officer Peter Winton, Senior Staff and Department Directors for all their hard work and for everything they do.

Adjourn

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

ATTEST:
LINDA DOGGETT, CLERK

Deputy Clerk

Chairman, Lee County Commission