

**BUDGET MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON AUGUST 28, 2014 AT 9:00 AM
IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM
ROOM 103, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
ARCADIA, FLORIDA**

The Board of County Commissioners held a Budget Meeting on August 28, 2014 with the following persons present:

Commissioner, Buddy Mansfield, Dist#1	HR Director, Don Kesterson
Commissioner, James Selph, Dist#2	Fire Chief, Larry Taylor
Commissioner, Gabriel Quave, Dist#3	Purchasing Director, Cindy Talamantez
Chairman, Elton Langford, Dist#4	Utilities Director, Eddie Miller
Commissioner, Bob Miller, Dist#5	Compliance Director, Jorge Hernandez
County Administrator, Mandy Hines	Social Services Director, Peggy Waters
County Attorney, Don Conn	Turner Center Director, Jody Sullivan
Transcribing Secretary, Jill Thompson	Env. Services Director, Henry Grimes
Administrative Services Director, Linda Nipper	Library Director, Linda Waters
Road & Bridge Director, Shawn Edwards	Emerg. Mgmt. Director, Doug Christ
Building Official, Lester Hornbake	Utility Coordinator, Donna Smith
Facilities Director, Richard Metzger	Senior Accountant, Peter Danao
Office Manager, Lauri Terry	Senior Staff Accountant, Brian Wagner
Sheriff Will Wise	Major James Vitali
Tax Collector, Kathy Hill	

CALL TO ORDER 9:00 AM

Donna Collins stated this was the third Budget Workshop and she will review the changes made to the General Fund and Special Revenues since the previous workshop, as well as discuss the Enterprise and Agency Funds. There is an issue regarding the Landfill and curbside collection that will be brought to the Board's attention.

In the General Fund there is a \$27,000 difference in Reserves from the previous version of the budget due to adjusting of the Revenue and Expenditure projections for 2014. The budget for the Sheriff was adjusted based on guidance from his department. The overall decrease in Reserves is a modest \$28,000.

Donna Collins stated adjustments were made to the Special Revenue Funds. There were a few large grants we will receive funding for Roan Road and Shores Avenue Transportation Projects. They have been added as a revenue source and as expenditures. Ms. Collins briefly discussed Enterprise Funds. There is approximately \$400,000 that will be set aside for closure costs which is our largest transfer. Requested capital from Enterprise Funds is relatively small when the Hwy. 17 Project is removed. The Landfill is requesting approximately \$205,000 which is included in this budget.

Utility Operations is requesting smaller amounts of money for land acquisition, technical equipment and various pieces of equipment that totals approximately \$110,000-\$120,000. The largest capital is the Hwy. 17 Project which is almost completely SRF funded.

The Landfill Fund shows a decline between the requested and amended budget in overall revenues which would be \$2.1 million and \$1.8 million that primarily relates to a continuing use of the fund balance and operations in the current year. The remaining revenues remain fairly consistent. The

other decline seen is in "other uses" and that number includes our Reserves that we would carry forward and any transfers. Our transfers, in total, are declining because we are consolidating multiple funds into one. Commissioner Miller questioned if the need for the pan and trailer was on the prior budget? Ms. Collins replied it was not highlighted but it was on the prior budget.

Donna Collins commented that in the 2015 budget year, we are pulling curbside collection into its own fund. Revenues in this fund have not been significant enough to cover total expenditures. Since Curbside was combined with Landfill some of the resources of the Landfill Fund were covering some Curbside costs. Mandy Hines commented with curbside collection, the County absorbs the administrative fee. She does not feel that it is proper for the Landfill to cover those expenses and should be covered by the General Fund. She requested direction from the Board. She questioned if the Board would like to leave it the same for 2015 and address the issue in the next year or plug with General Fund transfer? Commissioner Mansfield does not feel the Landfill should be subsidizing curbside pick-up and it should have been part of the MSBU from the beginning. Commissioner Selph also feels this should be changed. Commissioner Quave feels this should be changed as soon as possible. Ms. Hines commented there cannot be an MSBU adjustment for this year. Commissioner Miller feels that transferring to the General Fund is a solution. It was consensus of the Board to correct this issue next fiscal year. Further discussion ensued. Commissioner Selph request Henry Grimes to find the information regarding when this issue was originally presented to the Board and DeSoto County tipping fees compared to surrounding counties. Linda Nipper commented that information has recently been presented to the Board. Commissioner Mansfield is concerned with out-of-county waste being unloaded at our landfill. Mr. Grimes stated that large plastic toys and mattresses do not compact. Discussion was had regarding portable incinerators.

Commissioner Miller questioned the amount of waste being disposed of from WCA to our landfill? Mr. Grimes commented approximately 3-4 dumpsters per week. Further discussion ensued regarding out-of-county fees. Commissioner Quave stated he wants the fee changed today in the computer to \$84 per ton for WCA. The fee was previously established by Ordinance but was not being enforced; therefore amending the Ordinance is not required. Mr. Grimes stated that approximately 2/3 of the out-of-county waste is generated by WCA. Commissioner Selph feels \$84 is not a sufficient fee and should be increased to \$100 in the future.

Donna Collins stated in the Building Department, a new position was added of Administrative Assistant. The Utility Operation Fund balance is being depleted through operations but the funds in general continue to be strong.

Agency Funds continue to have revenue sources that are not utilized fully by expenditures. We are continuing to add to our Reserves within those funds. Expenditures in both funds have been nominal. Commissioner Quave questioned the Reserve Fund balance? Ms. Hines stated just above \$2,000,000. She stated this presents a cash flow problem in the first several months of the new fiscal year. Ms. Hines commented we can make a draw on a line of credit with no fee. Further discussion ensued regarding debt payment. Commissioner Mansfield questioned the amount of funds needed in Reserves to eliminate the cash flow problem? Ms. Hines commented \$4,000,000. Ms. Hines explained we are balancing off the fund balance. Commissioner Miller commented we need to spend less and take in more. Commissioner Selph commented the largest cost is the people but the employees have not received a raise in the last 8 years. The cost increase is coming from vendors and what they are charging. He questioned where is the largest increase in spending? Ms. Hines answered operating, insurance, Medicaid, utilities and FRS. Commissioner Quave commented the employees are receiving a raise indirectly by not paying the increased costs of health insurance and life insurance. Donna Collins commented that most of her 30 clients are giving at least a 3% raise or


more.

Commissioner Selph questioned over the next two years the impact Sonoma Preserve may have on the County. Lester Hornbake commented it will definitely affect the Building Department revenue. Commissioner Miller questioned the length of time curbside collection has been in existence? Mandy Hines answered since 2006. He commended Ms. Hines for identifying the problem and now correcting.


ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Langford adjourned the meeting at 9:45 AM.

ATTEST:



MANDY HINES
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA


ELTON A. LANGFORD
CHAIRMAN